**Intercessions for Easter 4  – 21st April 2024**

Holy God, your Son remained with his disciples for 40 days after his resurrection, teaching them to love all people as friends and neighbours. We too are his disciples and we offer our prayers on behalf of the church, the world in which we live and all those with whom we share it.

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Loving God, the letter of John reminds us that “ If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?”  Help us as a parish to try to aspire to love with actions and truth and not merely with words or speech.

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

**Eternal Father , we pray for our church in the world. We pray for peace and the right to worship You without fear. We pray for those parts of the Christian world where your people are being persecuted or reviled for their faith. We pray for your shepherds – all bishops, priests and ministers - that they may lead their flocks to a greater knowledge and understanding of our Good Shepherd, who laid down his life for his sheep. Today we pray especially for** The Anglican Church of Australia; The Diocese of Perth; St Andrew’s Aberfeldie; St Dunstan’s Camberwell; St Thomas’s Langwarrin with St Peter’s Pearcedale; St Luke's Melbourne South; St John’s Sorrento; Mother’s’ Union Australia

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Loving God we pray for all world leaders that, using Jesus Christ the Good Shepherd as the ultimate model of leadership, they would lead and care for their own flocks in such a way that peace might abound, righteousness flourish and injustice be eradicated.

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Father , help us to reach out to strangers in our midst.  As we remember the way the early Church lived in one heart and mind and shared everything they had, may we too be always mindful of the needs of others less fortunate and always welcome the newcomer joyfully into our midst.

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Loving God we pray for those who do not know your peace and for those who are struggling with their lives.  We ask for your healing on those who are sick, your strength for those who are tired and your love for those who live with despair and fear. In our parish we pray for His Majesty the King, Catherine, The Princess of Wales, Alan, Debbie, Diane, Graham, Greg, Jim, Joan, John, Jono, Josie, Judith-Ann, Kay, Kellie, Margaret & David, Mary and Roslyn and Fred

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Gracious God, we pray for those who now walk in the valley of the shadow of death. We know from the Psalm that you are with them and have gone before them to prepare them a table overflowing with all good things.  Guide those who are left behind in the paths of righteousness and uphold them in their sorrow with the assurance of your goodness and love.

(Short Silence)

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Everlasting God, we ask that you would bless us here at All Saints with vision for the future and reverence for the past.  Guide us each day as we minister to one another and to the world.  Help us each day to bear witness to your name and to do your bidding, always mindful of your amazing love for us.

**Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers,

 **Grant that what we have asked in faith, we may, by your grace, receive, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**